

The Breeze

Serving James Madison University Since 1922

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Thursday, April 2, 2015

breezejmu.org

INSIDE TODAY

SAVE THE FROGS

JMU professor and students team up to fight deadly disease

NEWS | 3

ART MATTERS

Björk exhibit sparks controversy

OPINION | 6

SOUL FROM THE SOLES



Renowned dance company visits JMU

LIFE | 10

B.A.L.L. IS LIFE



JMU student-athletes complete leadership program

SPORTS | 11

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



PHOTO BY PAT NOLAN | @PATNOLANSURFS

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Tag us @breezejmu

DART OF THE DAY

A “**your-rocks-kill-my-roll**” dart to JMU for laying a fresh layer of chunky gravel on the arboretum path.

From a biker who'd rather not be forced to dismount her road bike.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“JMU dining isn't ranked No. 6 in the country for nothing.”

LIFE | 10

TODAY WILL BE
Partly cloudy
69° / 55°
Chance of rain: 0%



MACROCK returns to Harrisonburg this weekend

JAMES CHUNG / THE BREEZE

LIFE | 9

Goodlatte visits SGA

Congressman discusses fiscal policy proposal



DANIEL STEIN / THE BREEZE

Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.), who represents the 6th district, made an appearance at SGA's meeting Tuesday evening.

By SAMANTHA ELLIS
The Breeze

With Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) in town Tuesday, it was time to talk money.

Goodlatte took a break from D.C. to speak to some of his constituents in a meeting with the SGA's student senate. Goodlatte represents the 6th District of Virginia, which includes Harrisonburg.

Fiscal policy, an issue that Goodlatte is particularly invested in, was a focal point of his presentation. As the national debt soars past \$18 trillion, there has been discussion regarding how to manage its growth.

“Twenty-seven states have been calling for something that hasn't happened since our founding,” Goodlatte said. “They've called for a constitutional convention to write a new amendment requiring that the federal government balance the budget.”

He believes the first step is to evaluate what's costing the most money, and determine what steps can be taken.

“Any plan has got to include entitlement reform,” Goodlatte said. “We've got to find more ways to be fiscally responsible, and it starts there.”

Entitlement programs, which include Social Security, Medicare and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), fall under the category

of mandatory spending. This means that Congress is required by law to fund these certain programs.

“Fifty years ago, only about a quarter of the federal budget went towards these mandatory programs,” Goodlatte said. “Now this year, it is [about] 70 percent.”

While tremendous steps, including ratification, would have to be taken to reform or reduce the spending for these programs, Goodlatte believes the money would go to better use elsewhere.

“When we think about our national defense, we think about our environment, the dollars available for transportation, education, our national parks, those are all in the 30 percent,” Goodlatte said. “That number continues to shrink.”

The Balanced Budget Amendment, a proposal that would prohibit the federal government from spending more than it takes in through taxes, aims to switch these numbers. While the bill has only recently come to the forefront of political discussion, Goodlatte considers himself a longtime advocate for the idea.

According to Goodlatte, he previously introduced two of the bills, where they came one vote short of the Senate in the 1990s. If they had passed, then they would have gone to the states, where 49 of the states have to live with

see **GOODLATTE**, page 4

Facing sensitivity

Satirical film focuses on realities regarding race and sexuality

By EVAN McALLISTER
The Breeze

JMU's Center for Multicultural Student Services aired the award-winning indie film “Dear White People” at the Grafton-Stovall Theatre on Tuesday, as part of its ongoing Diversity Excellence Education Program (D.E.E.P. Impact).

The film, originally aired during last year's Sundance Film Festival, quickly received critical acclaim and enjoyed a brief theatrical run during the fall and winter of 2014. At Sundance, the film won the U.S. Dramatic Special Jury Award for Breakthrough Talent.

“Dear White People” chronicles the lives of four African-American students attending school at the fictitious Winchester University, an Ivy-League, “predominantly white” university with a large population of wealthy students and an often-alluded-to financial deficit.

These characters include Samantha White, a film production major of mixed-race parents and the hostess of “Dear White People,” a divisive campus radio show; Troy Fairbanks, a pre-law political science student reluctantly pushed by his demanding father into many high-profile campus activities; Lionel Higgins, an openly gay freshman struggling to find

see **FILM**, page 4

Dukes prepare for Hofstra

Both undefeated in conference play, the teams begin a three-game series Friday

By BENNETT CONLIN
The Breeze

While “losing” and “JMU softball” haven't been used in the same sentence recently, the Dukes will certainly be tested as they enter the heart of conference play.

JMU (27-6, 6-0 Colonial Athletic Association) will look to extend its school record 18-game win streak this weekend when it bands to New York to battle Hofstra University. Hofstra (17-7-1 overall, 6-0 CAA) comes in playing well in its own right, with a ten game win streak.

The Dukes haven't lost since they gave up a late lead at home to Stony Brook University on March 8. JMU doesn't just win games either, it dominates. The Dukes have outscored their opposition by a mark of 171-70 this season.

As the wins pile up for JMU, so does the national recognition. The Dukes are now ranked in both the USA Today/National FastPitch

Coaches Association poll (No. 24) and the ESPN.com/USA Softball poll (No. 25) for the first time in school history.

While the Dukes are certainly proud of their accomplishments, they don't get caught up in the numbers.

“You can make the numbers say whatever you want them to say,” head coach Mickey Dean said about the national rankings. “We welcome the recognition. The thing is the only number that matters to us is one ... and that's one pitch at a time because that's all we have control over.”

The Dukes were also picked as the favorites to win the CAA before the season started. With all the hype surrounding JMU, other teams like, Hofstra, always want to bring their best and upset a top team.

“Everyone's kinda gunning for us this year,” junior catcher Erica Field said.

see **SOFTBALL**, page 12



SAM TAYLOR / THE BREEZE

The Dukes are ranked in both the USA Today/National FastPitch Coaches Association poll (No. 24) and the ESPN.com/USA Softball poll (No. 25) for the first time in school history.



EDITOR Greg Warrick

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Thursday, April 2, 2015

2

The Breeze

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MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student, faculty and staff readership by reporting news involving the campus and local community. The Breeze strives to be impartial and fair in its reporting and firmly believes in First Amendment rights.

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Correction

- In Monday's "Let's talk money" news story on the March 26 faculty senate meeting, information and a quote were incorrectly attributed to Val Larsen, an associate marketing professor. Larsen did not bring up a motion on salary compression and inversion, rather it was Mark Rankin, an associate English professor, director of undergraduate studies and coordinator of English internships.
- Larsen also did not voice a rebuttal to mathematics and statistics professor Caroline Lubert on the topic. That was also Rankin.

TH

April 2

Men's Tennis vs. Hampton @ Hillside Courts, 2 p.m.

Women's Tennis vs. Hampton @ Hillside Courts, 2 p.m.

Salsa Night @ The Artful Dodger, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Live Music: Delta Saints + Sleepwalkers @ Clementine Café, \$10 advance, \$13 day of show, 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.

F

April 3

Baseball vs. Delaware @ Veterans Memorial Park, 6:30 p.m.

Live Music: MACROCK XVIII @ The Artful Dodger, Clementine Café, Court Square Theater, Golden Pony and Three Notch'd. \$21 pre-sale All Access Weekend Badge, \$26 day-of All Access Weekend Badge, \$15 day-of Friday-only Badge

SA

April 4

Men's Tennis vs. College of Charleston @ Hillside Courts, 12 p.m.

Baseball vs. Delaware @ Veterans Memorial Park, 6:30 p.m.

Live Music: MACROCK XVIII @ The Artful Dodger, Clementine Café, Court Square Theater, Golden Pony and Little Grill Collective. \$21 pre-sale All Access Weekend Badge, \$26 day-of All Access Weekend Badge, \$15 day-of Saturday-only Badge

SU

April 5

Local Brunch spots: A Bowl of Good Café, The Artful Dodger, Bella Luna, Billy Jack's, Cinnamon Bear Bakery, Clementine Café, Corgans' Publick House, Earth & Tea Cafe, FoodBarFood, Heritage Bakery & Cafe, Jess' Quick Lunch, Jimmy Madison's Southern Kitchen and Whiskey Bar, Little Grill Collective, Local Chop & Grill House, L&S Diner, Mr. J's Bagels, Ruby's

Baseball vs. Delaware @ Veterans Memorial Park, 2 p.m.

Missing something? Send us your events at breezecopy@gmail.com.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

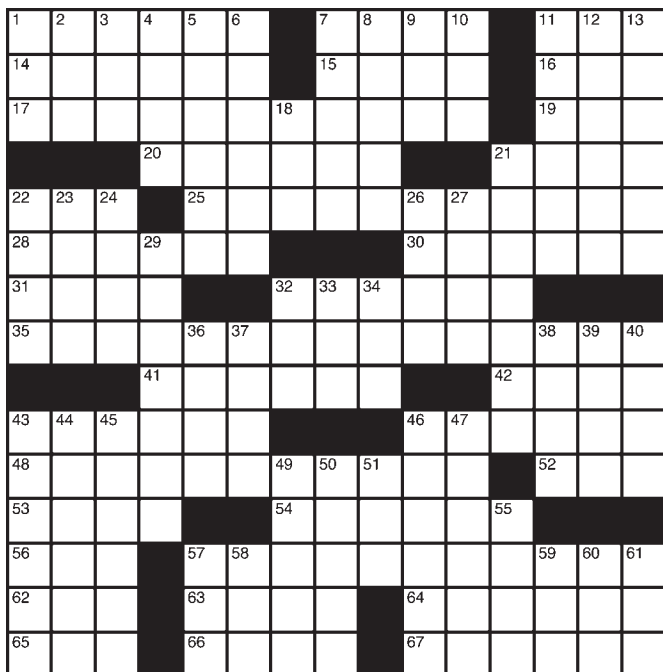
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Sweet Spanish wine
7 Work unit: Abbr.
11 Mendel's sci.
14 Place to surf
15 Washbowl partner
16 Protein-building molecule
17 Holy woman sculpted by Bernini
19 Battleship letters
20 Self-conscious question
21 Preceder of old age?
22 Peoria-to-Decatur dir.
25 It may call for lateral thinking
28 Iconic figure with an anchor tattoo
30 Tenochtitlán natives
31 Zenith
32 Chanted phrase
35 Van Gogh painting depicting peasants
41 Hostile advance
42 Toe loop kin
43 Not around much
46 Campaign ad urging
48 Many a sofa
52 Common animal in "The Far Side" comics
53 Participated in a poetry slam
54 Hole reef dweller
56 Give ____: pay attention
57 Words spoken often this time of year, one of which is anagrammed four times in this puzzle
62 Whirlpool site
63 ____ nitrate
64 Allow
65 Lush
66 In the wrong business?
67 Scone fruit

DOWN

- 1 High pts.
2 "So that's the answer!"



By Gareth Bain

4/2/15

Monday's puzzle solved

T	O	O		L	E	O	N	A		T	W	E	A	K
I	C	U		O	N	S	E	T		M	A	M	M	A
P	A	T	R	O	L	C	A	R		C	Y	B	E	R
S	L	O	A	N		A	T	A	D		C	E	N	T
Y	A	N	G		C	R	O	S	S	W	O	R	D	S
				B	O	R	A			L	E	O		
P	I	A	N	O	K	E	Y	S		E	L	R	O	Y
S	K	I		T	Y	L	E	N	O	L		A	V	E
S	E	L	M	A		D	A	L	M	A	T	I	A	N
				A	R	M				A	D	O	S	
J	O	L	L	Y	R	O	G	E	R		R	E	S	T
O	P	A	L		I	B	E	X		O	C	C	U	R
N	A	T	C	H		O	R	C	A	W	H	A	L	E
A	R	T	O	O		E	M	O	T	E		I	L	K
S	T	E	P	S		S	Y	N	O	D		N	Y	S

- 36 Formerly
37 Half of seis
38 Board member, usually
39 Slots spot
40 Impede
43 Overachiever's concern
44 Chintzy
45 Turkish peak
46 Thin layer
47 "Star Wars" surname

- 49 Best Angler and Best Jockey, e.g.
50 Ask (for), as a job
51 First car, for many
55 Actor Morales
57 Harrison role
58 Ovid's "I love"
59 CNN launcher
60 Wearer of a "Y" sweatshirt
61 Stimp's chum

WORLD NEWS

Pakistani militants will support Saudis

McClatchy Foreign Staff

ISLAMABAD — Militant Pakistani Sunni groups that trained alongside al-Qaida, fought with the Taliban in Afghanistan and launched terrorist attacks in India have pledged their support to Saudi Arabia, a key source of their funding, amid growing pressure on Pakistan to join the military coalition against Houthi rebels in Yemen.

In the last seven days, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has received calls from Saudi Arabia's king, its crown prince, its foreign minister and its intelligence chief, each seeking unspecified support from Pakistan's 550,000-strong military, one of the largest in the Muslim world.

The calls have, since Friday, prompted four meetings between Sharif and Pakistan's powerful military chiefs, who've been working to craft a response to the Saudi requests that would keep Pakistan from becoming a combatant in Yemen but provide some Pakistani bolstering of Saudi defenses.

Further pressure has been applied on the government since Friday by the Pakistani militant groups, which share Saudi Arabia's puritanical interpretation of Islam and have benefited since the late 1980s from huge inflows of donations from the kingdom and other Persian Gulf monarchies involved in the Yemen campaign.

Iraqi troops seize parts of Tikrit

McClatchy Foreign Staff

IRBIL, Iraq — Iraqi security forces backed by Sunni and Shiite Muslim militias pushed Tuesday into the center of the besieged city of Tikrit, taking control of key government buildings on the southeastern edge of the town from ISIL militants who have controlled the city for nearly a year.

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi announced that the city's western and southern portions had been liberated, but military commanders involved in the operation warned that at least three neighborhoods and a palace complex defended by hundreds of ISIL fighters remained out of government hands.

In Washington, the Pentagon took a cautious view of developments. "We welcome the progress by Iraqi forces in Tikrit today and are consulting with our Iraqi partners to continue efforts toward the full liberation of the city," an official statement said.

"Our security forces have reached the center of Tikrit and they have liberated the southern and western sides and they are moving towards the control of the whole city," al-Abadi said in a statement.

Among the locations that Iraqi troops captured was the provincial government compound and an adjacent palace complex that had once been a residence for late Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

Iranian nuclear talks head into extra day

McClatchy Foreign Staff

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — After a decade of on-again, off-again debate about Iran's nuclear future and six intense days of negotiations in this tiny lakeside resort, officials from the world's most powerful nations on Tuesday set aside a self-imposed midnight deadline and agreed to talk some more.

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf made the announcement eight hours before the deadline would have passed, noting in an email to reporters, "We've made enough progress in the last days to merit staying until Wednesday. There are several difficult issues still remaining."

But the extension had been rumored throughout the day, with German news media saying diplomats had discussed stopping the clock, while White House press secretary Josh Earnest called the talks "constructive" and "productive." "If we are making progress toward the finish line, then we should keep going," he said.

The Tuesday deadline never was an actual deadline. It was the day picked for reaching what was called a framework agreement, so that details could be worked out before the official deadline, June 30, when a previous agreement that limited Iran's nuclear program and eased international sanctions is to expire.

Activists denounce torture in Mexico

McClatchy Foreign Staff

MEXICO CITY — A controversy over the use of torture in Mexico and whether the government has retreated on human rights and rule of law issues intensified Tuesday, with human rights groups denouncing the government of President Enrique Pena Nieto for his administration's criticism of a United Nations official.

In a letter distributed Tuesday, more than two dozen human rights groups voiced "profound disgust" over his government's pledge to stop working with the U.N. envoy for torture, who earlier this month declared that the use of torture had become "generalized" in Mexico.

The groups cited what they called an "alarming increase in the number of registered complaints over torture and mistreatment."

Those signing the letter include groups such as the Institute for Security and Democracy, Freedom House Mexico and Citizens in Support of Human Rights, all of which receive international funding or have strong connections abroad.

The U.N. special envoy on torture, Juan Mendez, issued a scathing report in Geneva March 9 that said all levels of the Mexican security apparatus routinely use torture during interrogation.

Compiled from Tribune News Service.

NATIONAL NEWS

Religious freedom law is trouble for Republicans

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The furor this week over Indiana's religious freedom law means new trouble nationally for a Republican Party that's been fighting an image of intolerance for years.

Politically, this is the first big, bruising social issue skirmish of the 2016 campaign. Most potential Republican presidential candidates have lined up in support of the law, which in its current form is seen by many as allowing discrimination against gays.

Such full-throated support for the law may appeal to the evangelicals and born-again Christians whom hopefuls would need to win the Iowa Republican caucus and some key Southern states, but it's also likely to alienate a lot of people needed to win a general election.

Republican leaders are well-aware of the problem — and of the powerful ammunition the Indiana law hands Democrats — and have worked feverishly to soften their party's image.

Apple CEO forges path as a social activist

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Tim Cook runs the world's most valuable company. Now he's making his mark as an outspoken social activist.

The Apple chief executive penned a sharply worded opinion piece in which he condemned a slew of "pro-discrimination" legislation pending in several states. The so-called religious objection bills would allow people to legally discriminate against others, such as by citing their personal religious beliefs to refuse service to a customer.

The nearly 100 bills, he concluded, were bad for business and bad for human rights in general. "These bills rationalize injustice," Cook said in the 550-word piece in the Washington Post. "They go against the very principles our nation was founded on, and they have the potential to undo decades of progress toward greater equality."

In a big departure from predecessor Steve Jobs and other Silicon Valley CEOs, Cook has increasingly been using his prominent position to shed light on social issues close to his heart.

Congress primed to act on Iranian nuclear deal

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Whenever a deal is announced on Iran's nuclear program, President Barack Obama faces a tough slog in Congress, where skepticism abounds about the ability of the administration and five world powers to curb Tehran's nuclear program.

With Congress out of town on vacation Tuesday, there was little commentary about the administration's decision to extend talks past a midnight deadline that had been set for finding a framework agreement.

If no deal is struck, the House of Representatives and the Senate may move quickly to impose new sanctions on Iran. If a deal is struck, both chambers, Republican controlled, are expected to move quickly to pass legislation requiring Congress to pass judgment on the agreement.

"Congress will make its skepticism clear, its disapproval clear," said Jon Alterman, director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Middle East Program.

US executions and death sentences decline

McClatchy Foreign Staff

GENEVA — Executions and death sentences dropped in the United States last year in a sign that support for the punishment may be declining, a report from Amnesty International says.

The United States remained the only country in the Western Hemisphere to carry out executions during 2014, the international human rights group says in a report to be released Wednesday. But the number of executions fell to 35 from 39 the previous year. The number of death sentences handed out also declined, to 77 from 95 in 2013, the group reported. Only seven states conducted executions, down from nine a year earlier.

Four states — Texas, Missouri, Florida and Oklahoma — accounted for 89 percent of U.S. executions last year. Texas and Missouri each executed 10 people. Florida carried out eight executions and Oklahoma had three executions. Georgia had two, and Arizona and Ohio each carried out one.

Compiled from Tribune News Service.

Deadly fungus impacts amphibian species

Harmful skin disease continues to spread, but JMU professor may have the cure



COURTESY OF VANCE VREDENBURG

Junior biology major Heather Gagne (left), senior biology majors Tiffany Bridges and Kelsey Savage are working in the lab with Reid Harris, a JMU biology professor, to try to discover the correct probiotic formula that could be applied to an amphibian's skin to protect them from *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, a potentially deadly skin fungus that disrupts their breathing functions.

By WILLIAM MASON
The Breeze

Skin fungus isn't life-threatening, unless you're an amphibian.

Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis (Bd) is a harmful skin fungus that affects a host of amphibious species, such as frogs and salamanders. In many cases Bd is life-threatening, or even deadly, because it disrupts the breathing functions that take place on the skin of an amphibian.

There is no known cure for Bd, but JMU biology professor Reid Harris is working to try and change that through the use of protective bacteria.

It was during the late 1990s when Harris went to listen to a speaker talk about how mother salamanders could pass probiotics — or protective bacteria — to their eggs. At the time, Harris was also working with salamanders, a species

that had been heavily affected by Bd, when he put two and two together.

"At some point it clicked that antifungal bacteria can protect against fungus, we have a fungus that attacks the adults, it just all clicked," Harris said.

Now Harris and his team of biologists are trying to find the correct formula for a probiotic that could be applied to an amphibian's skin to protect them from the harmful fungus that has decimated amphibious populations.

"If we can get a working probiotic, we can potentially save entire populations," Emma Bales, a senior biology major and member of Harris' team, said.

According to Bales, saving these populations are mutually beneficial to humans as many amphibian populations help control insects, like mosquitoes, which can carry diseases like malaria.

According to Harris, Bd has been found on six of the

world's seven continents, the exception being Antarctica, where no amphibians live. While the origin of Bd hasn't been proven, the effects are indisputable as it has destroyed scores of amphibians across the world.

Although the fungus didn't reach North America until the mid-2000s, it hasn't taken long to make its mark, and it's already responsible for a 40 percent decline in the amphibian population in the Panamanian mountains.

There are two main reasons for the quick spread of Bd: a lack of immunity in native amphibians and the pathogen being airborne. This means that when a non-native amphibian carrying both Bd and an immunity comes into contact or even gets near a native amphibian, the disease will be passed on since no resistance exists.

So far there have been two major successes of the

see **FROGS**, page 5

IN BRIEF

HARRISONBURG

Police investigate fired shots

The Harrisonburg Police Department responded to a report of shots fired at the 500 and 600 blocks of Hawkins Street at 3 p.m. on Tuesday.

When officers arrived at the location, they discovered evidence related to a shooting and found that a residence had been struck by bullets from a possible handgun. Even though the residence was occupied during the shooting, no one was injured.

Several resources were used during the investigation including Criminal Investigations, the K9 Unit and the Gang Unit and Patrol.

"Random acts of violence like this are unacceptable for our community and our department is working diligently on investigating this crime," Lt. Rod Pollard, Division Commander of the Patrol Division, said.

The HPD is asking anyone in the community who may know additional information to contact their Criminal Investigations Division, at 540-437-2640, or send in tips to the text line by texting "HPD" and the tip to CRIMES (274637).

Callers can also contact Crime Solvers at 540-574-5050 and remain anonymous.

Construction to begin on West Rock Street Bridge replacement project

West Rock Street will be closed between North Liberty Street and the 28 West Rock Street apartment complex parking lot from April 6 until early September, according to Harrisonburg's Public Information Officer Mary-Hope Vass.

Despite its location, the street closure won't affect accessibility into the apartment complex's parking lot.

The construction is coordinated by the city's Public Works Department, and will involve replacing the West Rock Street Bridge's 40-foot-long steel beam and concrete deck, including the handrails, gutter, curb and sidewalks.

The project is expected to cost approximately \$495,000.

CISR brings global issues to JMU

Program to host annual Post-Conflict Recovery Week and raise awareness about impact of war

Post-Conflict Recovery Week Schedule

Monday, April 6, 7-8:30 p.m. MILLER HALL, Room 1101 CISR Director Ken Rutherford will present "Landmines in Our Backyard: The U.S. Civil War's Buried History," which consists of his research about the use of landmines during the Civil War and legacy of explosive remnants of war in the United States.	Wednesday, April 8, 7-8:30 p.m. MILLER HALL, Room 1101 2010 CNN Hero Award Winner and former Khmer Rouge child soldier Aki Ra will discuss his current efforts to remove landmines, foster orphans and run a landmine museum in Cambodia.
Tuesday, April 7, 7-8:30 p.m. ISAT Building, Room 159 Jim Hershberger and Rebecca Sprague will discuss the Harrisonburg Refugee Resettlement Program in a panel. Refugees living in Harrisonburg will also share their stories and experiences, demonstrating the community's large, diverse refugee community.	Thursday, April 9, 12-2 p.m. THE INSTITUTE FOR VISUAL STUDIES, ROOP HALL, Room 208 Iraqi refugee and photographer Husam Adnan Abdulazeez will present insights into his photography exhibit, "How I See: A Refugee's Experience in Harrisonburg." The exhibition, which has been shown at the annual Benefit 4 Change gala in New York City and at Harrisonburg's International Festival, focuses entirely on Harrisonburg, allowing visitors to see the town through the eyes of a recent refugee.

KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

By KAYLA RINI
The Breeze

The repercussions of war often seem distant, but from April 6 through April 9, JMU's Post-Conflict Recovery Week (PCRW) is bringing individuals with various backgrounds and experiences with trauma to campus.

Among these visitors includes CNN's 2010 Hero Award recipient and Cambodian landmine activist Aki Ra. Ra was a former child soldier for the Khmer Rouge, the Communist Party of Kampuchea, and has dedicated his life to disarming landmines in Cambodia and making his country safe.

Post-Conflict Recovery Week (PCRW) dates back to 2009, a year after the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR) was established.

According to Jennifer Risser, managing editor for CISR's Journal of ERW and Mine Action, the main goal of the week is for those

attending the events to walk away more knowledgeable about the devastating impact war has on individuals and communities.

"We want to increase awareness among members of the JMU community of the work of CISR and local organizations and departments involved in peacebuilding and post-conflict related research and activities," Risser said.

According to Risser, in recent years, CISR staff members have provided peer support training to war survivors in Burundi, Colombia, Rwanda and Uganda and disability rights training in Vietnam. They have also worked with JMU College of Business faculty and partners in Tajikistan to provide management training for senior managers of national mine action programs in Central Asia, among many other accomplishments.

The center has worked around the world to help communities build a peaceful and prosperous future liberated from the ramifications of war and disaster.

"We decided that holding an annual event focused on the expanded scope of the new center was a great way to connect CISR to the broader JMU and local Harrisonburg community," Risser said.

There are currently 38 conflicts going on around the world today, most notably the war in Afghanistan in which many United States soldiers are stationed.

According to Risser, post-conflict reconstruction is a growing challenge and crucial field in the international community.

PCRW is sponsored by CISR in conjunction with the JMU Departments of Political Science, Justice Studies, Graduate Psychology, JMU Institute for Visual Studies and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation.

The week's activities, which offer a diverse array of speakers, discussions and films, allows CISR to share their international work with JMU

see **CISR**, page 5

GOODLATTE | Experts weigh in on fiscal policies and tax reforms

from front

a balanced budget.

“I think it would have been ratified, and we wouldn’t have an \$18 trillion debt,” Goodlatte said.

“I’m not saying it would be perfect, but we would not have run up this kind of debt.”

While Goodlatte continues to campaign for the idea, Assistant Professor of Economics Andre Neveu thinks it could have very negative consequences. He notes that currently, if America were to have another recession, revenue would fall and spending would rise. If the amendment became law, it would enforce that spending would be cut and taxes would increase in the years following an economic downturn.

“I think that has potentially dangerous effects,” Neveu said. “The advocates for this type of plan are typically against raising

taxes of any kind, which means, in order to balance the budget, all of the reductions would have to come on the spending side.”

In Virginia, where almost 300,000 people work for the federal government, this could have devastating repercussions.

“It’s a window dressing approach that has potentially dangerous side effects, particularly for the state of Virginia,” Neveu said. “If you cut spending just to balance the budget, you’d expect to see job losses in those areas sensitive to government hiring.”

Another matter of fiscal policy, taxation, continues to be a major concern for Goodlatte.

“I think our tax code is a monstrosity,” Goodlatte said. “It has all kinds of loopholes and deductions and credits, it should be much simpler.”

Goodlatte noted several of the popular proposals toward tax reform, including a flat tax and a consumption-based tax, and

asserted there were pros and cons to the different ideas.

“I think any of those would be better than what we have now,” Goodlatte said. “The problem today is that everybody agrees that the tax code needs to be changed, but everybody has a different idea, so there aren’t 218 votes for any of them.”

Whatever the outcome of these fiscal reforms, the SGA was glad to host Goodlatte and appreciated his willingness to speak to his constituents.

“I just really enjoy that our representative is willing to come and speak to our student senate, especially when we have so many students who register [to vote] in the community,” Taylor Vollman, senior media arts and design major and SGA student body president, said. “It’s just a great moment for us to collaborate with somebody of national importance.”

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FILM | Students participate in discussion on social issues and stereotypes

from front

his place at the school amid dissimilar and often abusive housemates, and Coco Conners, White’s self-styled antithesis and rival, attempting to land a role in a reality TV show about African-American life in a “white” world.

The film offers a self-professed satire of the struggles and day-to-day events facing each of the African-American students, often touching on sensitive topics such as race relations, interracial romance, sexuality and sexual orientation. Despite the delicate nature of the topics, the film seemed to resonate well with the audience.

“I think satires give us a way to talk about sensitive subjects a little more easily, because you can get a good laugh in, but it can also be a conversation piece, which is what I really liked about it,” Kia Miles, a freshman health science major, said after seeing the film. “I personally haven’t seen racial tensions in front of my face, but I’ve definitely heard about them from other people around me ... I like that [JMU] actually took the chance to show this, since it’s not the easiest thing to talk about.”

Two important events serve to unite the characters’ story arcs: Winchester’s only African-American-specific residence hall, Armstrong/Parker, is being restyled as multiracial under a new housing act proposed by the university president. That’s much to the chagrin of White and like-minded African-American students, who feel the change is motivated out of a fear of gathering similar racial groups together. Fairbanks and his father, the dean of students, support the change, leading to friction with White when she unexpectedly wins the election and replaces Fairbanks for head of a traditionally black residence hall.

As the stories of the characters progress, they intertwine and shape each other, while dealing with common race-related themes. Nearly omnipresent are minor racial insensitivities — some unwitting, some deliberate or malicious. Many are lampooned or called to attention by



MARSHAL RIGGS / THE BREEZE

JMU students gather in Grafton on Tuesday evening for a free viewing of “Dear White People,” a satirical film that touches on sensitive topics such as race and sexuality, and a Q&A following the film.

White’s radio show, while others are endured or ignored by Higgins, Conners and Fairbanks.

The most egregious infraction is Kurt Fletcher’s Halloween party, given a “blackface” theme where invitees are encouraged to dress up as African-Americans and enjoy racially-stereotyped food — fried chicken, watermelon and “purple drink,” among others — in response to a racially-charged confrontation between Fletcher and White. As each character deals with their personal struggles in their own way, a brawl erupts between partygoers and residents of Armstrong/Parker become outraged over the racially-insensitive party.

The film appeared to provoke serious thought and open discussion among attendees during

the Q&A session held afterward, with many sharing stories from their personal life about their own experiences with racial stereotypes, both at JMU and at other points during their lives. The stories ranged from individual accounts of racial jokes or veiled slurs, to opinions on racial tension as a whole, both in the U.S. and worldwide.

“I’m pretty sure we’ll all die here, on this Earth, with this still being a problem,” Azzie Greene, a senior media arts and design major, said. “Racial tensions, not just at JMU, not just between blacks and whites but between different races in general [around the world],”

However, Greene is thankful that race hasn’t separated him from his friends.

“I do thank God that we live on a campus where I have friends that I love dearly that aren’t just African-American — that aren’t just black,” Greene said afterward, commenting on his own experience as an African-American at JMU.

Other attendees praised the portrayals of race and race relations in “Dear White People,” citing its accuracy in portraying the differences of opinion between African-Americans on how to deal with racism and other slights.

“I actually remember when this movie first came out, a lot of people in the press said it was an attack on white people,” DeShaun Artis, a sophomore intelligence analysis major, said.

According to Artis, it can be viewed as an attack on white people, but he believes that it’s displaying what’s going on in the United States and trying to show that racism is still a topic of concern.

“It’s always going to be an issue,” Artis said. “The movie did a good job of displaying the controversy — not just between blacks and whites, but between blacks too ... if you actually understand the meanings and the message they’re trying to portray, then you can really learn something from [it].”

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FROGS | Probiotic that could cure disease and treat athlete’s foot still needs improvement



PHOTO COURTESY OF VANCE VREDENBURG

A mountain yellow-legged frog population killed by *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, a harmful skin fungus that affects amphibian species, such as frogs and salamanders.

from page 3

probiotic — a lab trial in 2009 and a field study that took place between 2010-11. In both cases the team used frogs with Bd, treating some with a probiotic while leaving others untreated. In the lab trial, all that were treated survived, while those that went untreated died. In the field test, which used mountain yellow-legged frogs,

39 percent of the treated frogs were recovered after a year in the wild while none of the untreated frogs were recovered. There have been successful moments, but the probiotic is still in need of perfection and a variety of different strands of protective bacteria are currently being tested. This testing involves infected frogs being shipped to JMU where they are given a bath in the probiotic dissolved in water.

JMU and its collaborators are trying to establish how long the probiotic can remain on the test frogs. According to Eria Rebollar, a postdoctoral working on Harris’ team, the next step would be trying to get the probiotic to work in amphibians’ natural environment.

“It would be really, really important if we could come up with a strategy to help amphibians to survive against this disease,” Rebollar said. “It’s very hard to apply probiotics in the wild, but we think it’s one of the strategies that we could apply.”

In addition to their success with amphibians, Harris’ team has also been able to apply their probiotic research to humans by theorizing that an anti-fungal bacterial could control athlete’s foot. The project would see a type of bacterium that already exists on humans manipulated in a way to produce anti-fungal metabolites that would be preventive.

“We were able to show that a bacteria that occurs on humans, was able to ... inhibit the athlete’s foot fungus [in a petri dish]. So we were also able to get a patent on that through JMU, and that’s pretty much as far as we’ve gone,” Harris said.

Other labs and companies have shown interest in continuing the project, which, according to Harris, is part of an important group of treatments that offer alternatives to antibiotics.

“There’s always a place for antibiotics, but they need to be used more selectively,” Harris said. “The idea is to use good bacteria to kill bad bacteria, instead of antibiotics, which just kill everything.”

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CISR | Program discusses land-mines in the U.S.

from page 3

faculty and students. JMU has multiple academic departments on campus that provide resources and research in this field, such as the School of Business and the geology and chemistry departments.

Ra will discuss his efforts on April 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Miller Hall, Room 1101.

The other events of the week are focused directly on the Harrisonburg community. Ken Rutherford, director of CISR, a JMU political science professor and a double amputee landmine accident survivor, will present “Landmines in Our Backyard: The U.S. Civil War’s Buried History” about his research in the field.

“The American Civil War is the first war to use landmines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) on a widespread scale,” Rutherford said. “They are currently the No. 1 cause of American combat casualties.”

His presentation will be a discussion on how and why these weapons were developed and utilized.

On April 7, there will be a panel discussion with Jim Hershberg and Rebecca Sprague of the Harrisonburg Refugee Resettlement program, as well as with Harrisonburg refugees sharing their experiences. This event will be held in ISAT Room 159 from 7 to 8:30 pm.

To end the week, Husam Adnan Abdulazeez, an Iraqi refugee and photographer, will talk about his photography exhibit titled “How I See: A Refugee’s Experience in Harrisonburg.” This event will be held in Room 208 in Roop Hall.

“This week highlights the resilience people have in order to move forward, even under difficult circumstances,” Risser said.

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Transgender actors should be cast in all roles

COREY TIERNEY | media mogul



The key to activism is never being content.

Activism is especially relevant right now with transgender rights and normalization, particularly in the entertainment industry.

So much progress has been made over the last few years already, such as Laverne Cox entering almost every Americans home on “Orange is the New Black” and gracing the cover of TIME Magazine.

Carmen Carrera is also stomping runways all over the world in high fashion shows, and Janet Mock is on talk shows galore, including a stop at the University of Virginia this past week.

But the problem is that trans actors and actresses are still being pigeonholed in Hollywood.

They’re only cast in roles for characters who are trans, and even then, many trans roles are being given to actors who are cisgender — or those who identify as the gender assigned to them at birth.

The next step in making the idea of transgender accepted in our society is to cast trans actors and actresses in roles that aren’t just tokens in a plot.

The reason I’m speaking solely of entertainment is because, nowadays, it’s how normalization happens.

What children (and even adults) see and hear on TV, film, radio, social media, etc. shapes how they view the world and what they deem “OK.”

When a small child who may be confused as to why she doesn’t see herself as a “real girl” sees transgender celebrities, it shows her that she’s not alone. It also educates her, potentially in a home that would otherwise refuse to.

The same goes with adults, but in a different way.

The previous example speaks to trans men and women being in the spotlight at all. But with stubborn adults, it needs to go a bit further, as usual. It goes back to my point about cisgender roles.

Right now, trans actors and actresses are in trans roles, which is great since they can relate.

The problem is that they’re seen as “special” roles.

Being trans (as a person) is highlighted as if it’s especially weird or different.

It’s a plot line to be fascinated by like it’s a zoo exhibit, which, in a way, makes sense because transgender is a fresh idea for many Americans.

However, if an adult were to see a trans actress, such as Laverne Cox, play a character who isn’t trans, it creates that idea of normalization.

She’s just a great actress who’s in the role of a woman.

If people saw trans men and women be “normal” members of society by succeeding in Hollywood, they’d start to think of them less as zoo animals and more as people.

It’s about creating actors who happen to be transgender instead of just “transgender actors.”

Until this happens, trans men and women — not just celebrities — are still going to be seen as aliens and ridiculed for their different situation.

This isn’t as tiny of a minority as skeptics might think, either.

According to a 2011 University of California, Los Angeles study, roughly 0.3 percent of American adults identify as transgender.

That’s approximately 900 thousand out of the over 300 million people in this country.

And that’s not counting all those who are unaware the idea exists, or those who are afraid to come out due to discrimination.

But since the entertainment world reaches the largest number of Americans, it’s up to the bigwigs of Hollywood to open their doors (and minds) to this idea.

Then maybe one day, people like me won’t have to be writing pieces like this.

Corey Tierney is a senior media arts and design major. Contact Corey at tiernecm@dukes.jmu.edu.



Laverne Cox plays a transgender inmate on Netflix’s “Orange is the New Black.”

COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Art must be appreciated, not criticized

Björk’s Museum of Modern Art exhibit deserves more positive attention from critics and media

HAYLEY MOORE | historical nonfiction



This semester, I’ve been taking a writing class about art and, as a result, I’ve started following the art community more closely. In doing this, I’ve come to realize that art

critics are very picky people.

One piece of art-related news that recently caught my attention was the Björk exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City.

For those of you who don’t know who Björk is, she’s essentially the Lady Gaga of Iceland without the meat dress.

She’s known for an eclectic musical style that incorporates a number of different music genres, and for wearing the infamous swan dress at the 2001 Oscars.

The MoMA exhibit, which opened March 7, displays her costumes, music videos, handwritten lyrics, album artwork and music video props.

While it seems as though it would’ve

been a popular exhibit, the reception has been anything but positive.

The biggest issue that critics have with the exhibit is that they believe the art museum and its curator, Klaus Biesenbach, are exploiting celebrity status as a way to get more money.

For someone who wants to work in a museum after I graduate, I don’t agree with this at all.

Museums are a business, so of course they need money.

Today, it’s hard for museums to get funding or donations, so curators have to come up with creative ways to bring in profits.

If you have an exhibit by a well-known celebrity, it’s going to bring in money when entry is included in the admission fee and MoMA is aware of that. There’s nothing wrong with bringing in money.

Critics are focusing so much on this debate that they aren’t even appreciating the unique work Björk has shared with the world.

They’re forgetting that they’re looking at art.

I haven’t been to Björk’s MoMA exhibit. The closest I’ve come to seeing it is on Instagram.

Personally, I find it to be a unique exhibit and something that I’d like to go see, but critics are telling me not to.

What’s the big deal?

Yes, it’s a little strange that she has an exhibit at MoMA (considering she’s more popular in Europe), but critics need to step back and value what Björk has brought to not only the music world, but the art world as well.

Björk has really changed the music business.

She’s created her own unique sound and look that I can honestly say no one

has been able to match.

She’s not afraid of challenging herself as a musician and try new things, such as creating a phone app to go along with one of her albums. Björk is the definition of an artist and critics seem to be forgetting that.

After taking my writing class this semester, I’ve learned that the definition of art differs from person to person.

Even though this may be the case, critics shouldn’t have a closed mind when it comes to this exhibit.

I think they should be more open-minded, because art is art and there are obviously people who find her work worthy of such an exhibit at an esteemed institution.

Regardless of the museum’s intentions with the exhibit, or how it’s set up, art enthusiasts should step back and appreciate Björk and her art.

Hayley Moore is a junior history and writing, rhetoric and technical communication double major. Contact Hayley at moorehe@dukes.jmu.edu.



Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth. Submit Darts & Pats at breezejmu.org

A “life-is-so-hard” dart to the Breeze writer with a sense of entitlement thinking she deserves a better parking spot.

From a JMU alum who didn’t even have the luxury of having a car freshman year and thinks you should invest in a new pair of walking shoes, a bike or ride the FREE bus and stop increasing your carbon footprint.

A “way-to-go-JMU-comedy” pat to Maddy Night Live who should’ve been the talent, not the opener, for Jimmy Tatro.

From a student who enjoys real comedy and thinks you all are stars.

An “easy-BREEZY-beautiful” pat to the new Breeze staff for this first issue.

From a (now) former editor who knows we left it in the right hands and that you’ll continue its legacy wonderfully.

A “no-one-cares-what-you-have-to-say” dart to the group chanting outside Hillside at 6 a.m. From a student who already doesn’t get enough sleep.

A “thank-you” pat to all those working hard to make JMU’s first glow 5K a success! From someone who appreciates this unique opportunity.

A “your-rocks-kill-my-roll” dart to JMU for laying a fresh layer of chunky gravel on the arboretum path.

From a biker who’d rather not be forced to dismount her road bike.

A “be-the-change” dart to the Grace Street meter for not giving me my change. From a girl who paid \$1 for 15 minutes of parking.

A “way-to-go” pat to the maintenance crew in Skyline for fixing our pipes and getting our hot water back on quickly. From someone who prefers hot showers to cold ones.

Editorial Policies

The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns. Letters must be no longer than 250 words. Guest columns must be no more than 650 words.

The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. The Breeze assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of The Breeze or its staff.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

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“To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression.”

— JAMES MADISON, 1800

JULIA NELSON | contributing columnist

NETFLIX

recommendation of the week

TV: “Bob’s Burgers” (2011 - present)

5 seasons (4 on Netflix)

If you like fart noises, butt jokes and good old-fashioned family values, then Bob’s Burgers is the show for you.

I’ll admit that when I first started watching the show, the art style made me a little uncomfortable (what the heck is up with everyone’s necks?), but the lovable characters soon made me find their Q-tip-like physiques endearing.

Centered on the Belcher family’s mediocre burger joint, the show features what is perhaps the best voice right now in animated television, and the most hidden puns of any show ever.

But the best part of the show is the kooky characters.

Linda and Bob Belcher have a hilarious, yet heartwarming dynamic in their marriage, and never

fail to teach their children that they don’t need to live a glamorous lifestyle to be happy.

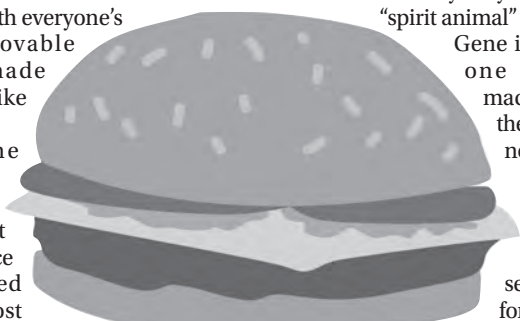
Then there’s the oldest, boy-crazy Belcher child, Tina, who writes “erotic friend fiction” and seems to have become synonymous with being everyone’s “spirit animal” on social media sites.

Gene is the confident, musical one whose sound effect machines are responsible for the majority of the show’s fart noises.

And there’s no forgetting the youngest Belcher, Louise, who has an inappropriate adult sense of humor and a knack for devising evil plans.

There’s no doubt that Bob’s Burgers is deserving of the huge fan base it’s acquired since its debut in 2011.

You only need to Google “Bob’s Burgers tattoos” to prove it.



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

SHANNON PEEBLES | contributing columnist

Closer than you think

Autonomous cars aren’t just things of the future

As Google has raved about its self-driving car and has pumped up the marketing of the “Google Chauffeur,” I’ve heard many people easily dismiss this technology with a wave of the hand — something for future generations to use and deal with.

What these people don’t realize is many car manufacturers have successfully researched and developed technology that has the computing power to navigate vehicles independently and several are conducting test drives on the roads in five different states.

Additionally, the website Scientific American published an article about autonomous vehicles’ potential ability to cut greenhouse gas pollution through the use of adaptive cruise control, traffic light synchronization, vehicle-to-vehicle communication, smart parking systems and eco navigation.

I believe that with time, these vehicles could also use this exchange of information between other vehicles and infrastructure to eliminate congestion, improve safety and coordinate movement.

Unfortunately, there are three major roadblocks that stand in the way of driverless cars becoming mainstream technology: the public’s hesitation putting trust into the hands of a computer, getting lawmakers on board with a new wave of necessary regulations and the time required for the masses to transition to new technology.

While there are already early models of self-driving cars, the chairman and CEO of Renault and Nissan, Carlos Ghosn, believes

that completely autonomous vehicles won’t exist in the next decade, but will be implemented into society in three stages.

Phase one would be self-driving in traffic jams, one of every driver’s least favorite situations, using cars that will be able to drive themselves in stop-and-go traffic. Ghosn claims that the technology for this stage is ready and simply waiting on the government to allow it. Phase two would arrive in 2018, with cars that can navigate themselves on the highway.

The biggest challenge would be phase three, city driving, which requires cars to be able to respond to many different objects including pedestrians, bicyclists, stoplights, animals and densely packed cars.

While I believe it’ll take longer than five years, I think the United States and other countries will eventually adapt to self-driving vehicle technology (which has already been slowly integrated into the cars we drive today).

I think that while there are major hurdles to surpass, the benefits of autonomous vehicles greatly outweigh the challenges.

So what should you do next time you’re trapped in a traffic jam or faced with a long car trip? I suggest imagining a future where cars are not only a mode of transportation, but also a place to work, watch TV or even nap.

Shannon Peebles is a senior integrated science and technology major. Contact Shannon at peeblesk@dukes.jmu.edu.

LUKE WACHOB | letter to the editor

Ted Cruz article proves arrogance, not intelligence

This shouldn’t have to be said, but here we are: intelligent people can have severe disagreements about politics.

In the March 29 column ‘Ted Cruz isn’t a good candidate for president,’ the writer concludes that the reason he disagrees with the views of U.S. Senator Cruz — the former Texas Solicitor General, former clerk for then-Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist, Harvard Law School and Princeton University graduate — is dumb. Seriously.

His insult-laden rant calls Cruz “Barry Goldwater minus

the intelligence,” “stupid,” “remarkably unintelligent,” “a clueless dolt,” says he possesses “an amount of ignorance ... that is both disheartening and hilarious at the same time,” says “I’m unconvinced that a human being dumber than Cruz currently exists within the Republican ranks” and that “whatever happens to dribble out of his mouth reeks of simple-mindedness and absurdity.”

The writer’s misplaced outrage displays the arrogance of someone who hasn’t yet accepted that other intelligent people see the world differently than he does.

Whatever one thinks of Cruz (and he has critics

across the political spectrum), he is clearly an incredibly accomplished man with achievements in law and politics that few of us are ever likely to match.

Instead of mocking and dismissing views that challenge or annoy us, we should seek to understand them.

Calling people stupid wins you nothing more than a reputation for cruelty, even if the charge is true.

When discussing someone with Cruz’s daunting resume, it just makes you look short-fused and silly.

Luke Wachob is a 2013 JMU alumnus.



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BRIANA ELLISON | off topic

HATERS GONNA HATE

Internet trolls are wasting their time with negative comments on social media



We live in a world bursting with diversity and polar opposites. In a literal sense, we have the North and South Poles, but metaphorically, we have opposing groups: conservatives and liberals, northerners and southerners, and fans and anti-fans.

All have their own thoughts and opinions, but it's the actions of the latter, the anti-fans, that have begun to grow in popularity.

So what is an anti-fan?

The name is pretty self-explanatory. Whereas some people are fans of things (whether it be a band, a solo artist, an author or a book series), meaning they thoroughly enjoy, comprehend and are inspired by the content of these entities, anti-fans harbor opposing sentiments.

Anti-fans absolutely loathe certain bands, solo artists, celebrities and authors.

They hate anything and everything they do and can't wait to tell you, the adoring fan, all about it.

Even more surprising than their actual presence is the sheer variety of anti-fans who exist (although it isn't so much a variety as it is two extremes).

First, you have the mourning former fans. These anti-fans are growing in number, and can primarily be found droning on a band or solo artist's social media account. Their favorite lines include "I miss your old stuff," "I don't like how you've changed your sound" and "you're a sellout."

I see these anti-fans a lot on the Facebook page for my favorite band, Paramore. The band can post anything — a new picture, a story about one of the members or even a tour announcement — and former fans flock to the post like sharks to a fresh kill. They immediately clog the comments with statements like, "Are you going to play some of your old stuff? I don't like the new songs," or "Ugh, I wish I didn't hate the new album so much."

On the other end of the spectrum, we have the anti-fans who absolutely love what they do. These are the ones who make comments ranging from a snippy "you're crap," to long, painful paragraphs about how much they dislike someone's work. These anti-fans could also be referred to as trolls, since they love riling up the emotions of dedicated fans. It could be the most mundane announcement, and the hardcore anti-fans can't wait to throw their two cents in.

What's so disturbing about the presence of anti-fans is their dogged dedication to negativity.

Not only do they feed off the angry emotions they elicit in the fans of their targets, they also survive on their expressions of hate.

No matter what you say, they cling to their hate like leeches. It becomes apparent after you encounter a few, and watch their continued interactions which actual fans, that expressing their hate is a form of release.

The biggest question to ask is why anti-fans become anti-fans. Sure, we all have a group, a person, a book we don't like — but that's where we draw the line. We feel no desire to insert ourselves into their atmosphere. The simplest and most successful way to

deal with our dislike is to distance ourselves from the subject.

Yet anti-fans do the complete opposite. They purposefully impose themselves. Whenever they begin their hate tirade, you'll always see at least one true fan respond with, "If you don't like them, then why are you on their page?" It's a question on a conundrum so mind-boggling, I'm not even sure anti-fans themselves know the answer.

In all honesty though, why? Why subject yourself to the actions and behaviors of a person who you don't even like? What can be gained from stalking them and including your negative opinion on others?

It's frustrating because it doesn't make any sense. There's no logical reason for anti-fans to stalk their subjects only to be negative. If you hate them so much, why do you care?

It's almost hilarious the way anti-fans unknowingly make their hate stronger. Part of the reason for their dislike may be overexposure. The best thing we can do is redefine that line they've blurred. It may be a frightening concept to consider, but we do have free will. If we don't like someone, we don't have to interact with them. You can separate yourself from their lives. Of course, their presence will always pop up, but it's a fleeting moment on an otherwise momentous scale.

Don't let your dislike of someone crowd your judgment and further reinforce the problem.

Briana Ellison is a sophomore media arts and design major. Contact Briana at ellisobr@dukes.jmu.edu.



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

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MACROCK

XVIII

event preview

event column

MACROCK celebrates 18 years
of do-it-yourself indie rock

Eryn Mann | contributing writer

The Friendly City is about to get a lot louder. This Friday and Saturday, downtown Harrisonburg will be bursting with music and fans from all over the East Coast.

MACROCK is Harrisonburg's annual music festival that features independent artists and celebrates community. Now in its 18th year, MACROCK begins Friday and continues into the night on Saturday. Over 50 bands will crowd downtown, drawing fans from all over and hopefully leave with new ones.

But the attitude of the bands and the coordinators is different from many other music festivals.

Landon Walker, a senior English and media arts and design double major, is one of MACROCK's head coordinators. He said that one of MACROCK's most important aspects is its DIY, or do-it-yourself, mentality.

"We don't have any sponsorship funding," Walker said. "We raise all the money ourselves, pay all the bands ourselves. It maintains a certain level of artistic credibility, made by people who want it to be made."

Downtown Harrisonburg is well-known locally for its thriving music culture. "In a lot of ways [MACROCK is] sort of an expanded version of a typical weekend night in downtown Harrisonburg," Walker said. "There might be a show with three bands happening in a basement, but on MACROCK weekend you can see 60 bands in that way."

What's different about this year is the variety of genres that will be represented at MACROCK — folk, punk, pop garage, post-hardcore, chiptune and more. Ben Schlabach has been attending MACROCK for 15 years, and is guitarist and singer for the band Uncle Bengine and the Restraining Orders, performing at Little Grill Collective on Saturday night.

"I think that this year, they've done a good job of diversifying ... It probably varies in a user-friendly level for the general populous," Schlabach said.

There will also be a Label Expo on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., a "garage sale-style event," according to the MACROCK website. Independent labels, bands, local artists AND representatives from music and art magazines called "zines" will be hanging out and selling their wares to the sound of an acoustic show organized by Schlabach, featuring bands on labels represented at the Expo.

"It's exciting because it can bring in some artists that don't always come through town," Schlabach said. "It helps put us on the map as a place that's worth a stop, and I think it's also a testament to what goes on here the other 363 days of the year."

In addition to the concerts and Label Expo, there will also be three panels addressing issues that are relevant to the independent music community, as well as to the community at large. There will be a discussion called "Girls in DIY and Punk" that will address the representation of women in the music community. The Laughing Dog will be hosting Spice Up Your Shirts, offering two designs people can get printed on their shirts for free. Finally, "DIY's pastpresentfuture with comics // zines" will explore the differences between comic books and zines, and the history of the two.

"The thing I always compare it to is it's kind of like a Disneyland or a Disney World for people who are into up-and-coming music," Jon Reed, drummer for the band Malatese, said.

It may seem like a lot to take in, but Walker says it will be well worth it.

"If you're not familiar [with the bands], don't hesitate to come out," he said.

According to Walker, it's a unique opportunity to connect with the local community, the independent, DIY music community, pick up some artwork and maybe find a new favorite band.

"There's a lot of passion in it, and I think it sort of reflects on the music and the art that gets created in that sort of community," Walker said.

Pre-sale two-day passes are available now for \$21. Two-day passes will also be available on Friday for \$26, as well as one-day passes for \$15. For more information and for ticket purchases, visit MACROCK's official website at MACROCKva.org.

CONTACT Eryn Mann at mannek@dukes.jmu.edu.

Festival is living proof that bands don't need
a corporate label to be successful

Stephen Proffitt | *The Breeze*

Come Friday evening, downtown Harrisonburg's Court Square, alongside the Main Street stretch, will be bustling with energetic, independent music lovers in crammed, oversold venues for MACROCK XVIII.

The "conference," or so it's called on the website, began back in 1996. This being the 18th installment of the festival, it's seen some alterations over the years.

In its original conception, it served as an annex to student-run radio station WXJM, directly tied and financially assisted by JMU.

Tales and folklore abound, and we can't extend official reasons for the divorce among the three acting parties — MACROCK, JMU and WXJM — but it happened in 2007. However, there's a story out there concerning some missing money, which may have been the cause.

The festival now acts independently, while being all but officially joined at the hip of WXJM.

According to the website, "MACROCK has been and always will be perpetuated by the belief that music can thrive without a corporate influence."

Do-it-yourself, more popularly known by the acronym DIY, lives heavily in this music scene. The promoters, organizers and traveling musicians yearn for success without reliance on sponsors or the powerful "Man."

Without the university, MACROCK has found its home in the handful of downtown venues. Whether it's the continuously growing appeal of this event, or the denial to explore alternatives, attendance, especially at nights during headlining acts, is proving to be a stressor.

As an attendee and volunteer for a few years now, I've seen people get shut out. Clementine Cafe and the Blue Nile, which will reopen this weekend as the Golden Pony, offer capacities around 180.

With an average of 600 paid attendees, according to a MACROCK committee member, there is a growing problem of people not being able to see music on nights when the festival is the most populated.

The Pony's opening will be all but soft as it will house the metal showcase that the Blue Nile became known for in past years.

Being a not-for-profit, it's not about hoarding more money from attendees, but there should be a balance in tickets sold. Given the venues hosting this weekend: Clementine, Golden Pony, Court Square Theater, Three Notch'd Brewery, The Artful Dodger and Little Grill Collective, there's enough variety to disperse about 600 people during the day.

But come night, all focus turns to Clementine and the Golden Pony, and capacities south of 200 at both of those places potentially leaves people shut out.

This is an issue that needs to be addressed in years to come. MACROCK could possibly obtain sponsorship from Three Brothers Brewing, which could possibly open up for outside music, and would help disperse crowds more evenly throughout downtown — not to mention heightening the aura of the festival.

That being said, there's occasional discontent with the committee's politics and whether the lineup properly promotes Harrisonburg's own bands, as well as if the selections are for the good of the attendees, or simply fulfilling personal desires. These are the types of problems you have when there's no big money involved. Better or worse, that's up to you.

At \$26 for a two-day pass, the value is in the dollar. You'll be exposed to a slew of bands you've never heard before and you'll be around people who live and breathe the scene. It's truly one of the best weekends of the year in Harrisonburg.

Fully staffed by volunteers, MACROCK bleeds for the music. It has provided many powerful acts with a stage to perform on during youthful growth. Animal Collective and Black Moth Super Rainbow are two prime examples of high success as graduates of MACROCK who now sell out densely populated pavilions.

This two-day festival is a subtle-but-loud staple in Harrisonburg's downtown community.

Get out and enjoy the warm weather and the increasing decibels resonating throughout our beloved community this weekend.

Take what you brought, tip your bartenders and get home safely Harrisonburg.

Stephen Proffitt is a senior media arts and design major. Contact Stephen at proffittjs@gmail.com.



Rock my soul

New York-based dance troupe Ailey II comes to JMU to perform a variety of genres and techniques

By **REBECCA JOSEPHSON**
contributing writer

With a floor bathed in magenta velvet light, silent feet flew across the stage earlier this week at the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. Critically acclaimed New York-based dance company, Ailey II, visited and performed at Forbes on Monday and Tuesday. Though a secondary group under the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation’s umbrella, they’re “second to none,” as labeled by Dance Magazine.

On Monday, Ailey II performed three pieces: “The External Knot,” “Cuore Sott’Olio” and “Virtues;” while on Tuesday they switched the latter for the historical and well-known classical piece, “Revelations.” They brought a multitude of music genres and varying choreographers’ work, coupling this with the playful, yet powerful technique and soul of their dancing. Each night concluded with a long standing ovation while exclamations of praise and admiration echoed around the theater.

Alvin Ailey began his company in 1959.

“He studied with a very important figure, Lestor Horton, originally in the early ’40s and ’50s, which was based out of L.A.,” Shaun O’Hara, professor of dance and director of Virginia Repertory Theatre, said. “Unexpectedly, Horton died and Ailey took over the company.”

O’Hara attributes the company’s success to their style.

“Why Ailey has always been successful is that it has always been accessible,” O’Hara said, especially in relationship to the audience.

Today Alvin Ailey leads Ailey II, with new artistic director Troy Powell, as a secondary school and as a type of apprenticeship program.

“At a certain point you want to get them on stage working with advanced choreographers and the dancer will hopefully get to the next level,” O’Hara said.

After dancing all over the globe, coming to JMU to perform felt nostalgic to first-year Ailey II dancer Nathaniel Hunt.

“I went to a college university for my undergraduate [degree],” Hunt said. “It kind of felt like an old

reminiscing of my college days, especially teaching a master class.”

Today, Hunt considers Alvin Ailey guest artist and rehearsal director Matthew Rushing to be the mentor that inspires him.

“Matthew is so soulful, which is why his movement quality is so euphoric and enriching,” Hunt said. “It really makes me think about my own quality as a dancer. I feel like Matthew has a spiritual connection when he is dancing, which makes me want to dive into my dancing and into my spiritual connection.”

After teaching one of the master classes for dance majors on Monday, Hunt said his goal is to inspire the students.

“I would like them to know they have something special and that something never needs to be proven, never needs to be judged,” Hunt said. “It just needs to be shared because everyone has something special.”

Bringing Ailey II to JMU was a blend for the benefits of both the audience and JMU’s dance students, accomplishing the goal of bringing in guest artists on behalf of Forbes’ master series.

According to Jen Kulju, public relations and marketing specialist at Forbes, the executive director of Forbes Regan Byrne looks for performers the audience can learn from as well as appreciate.

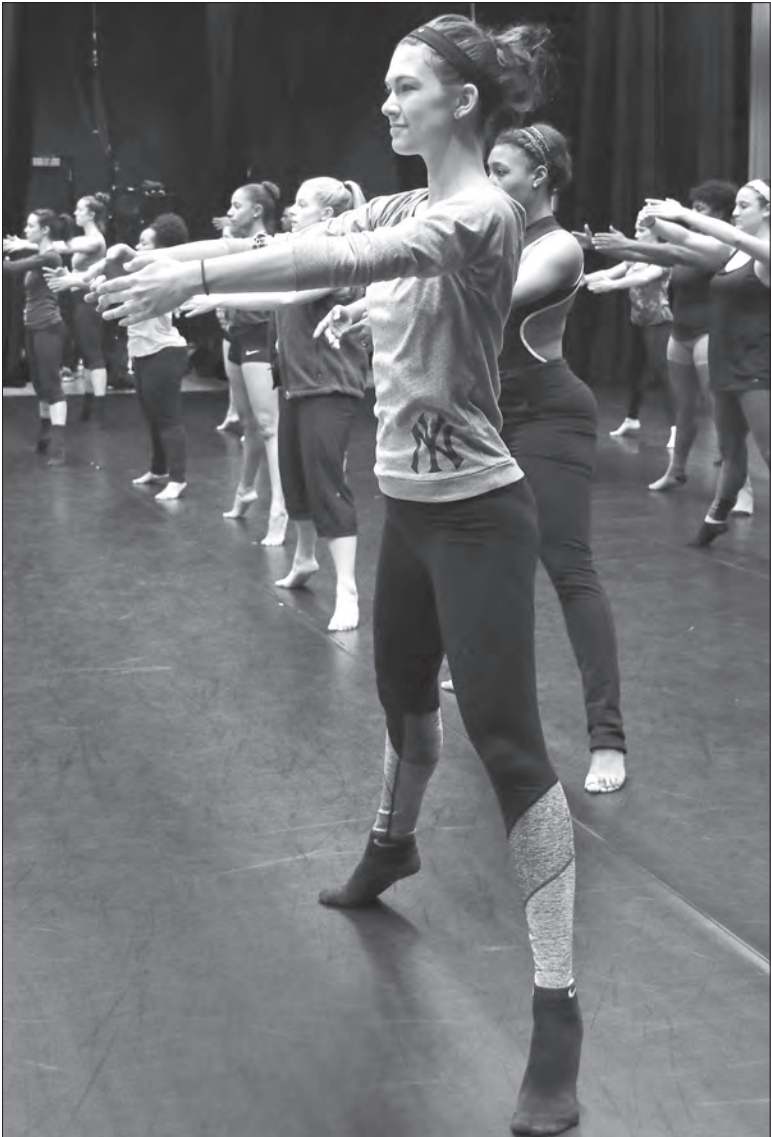
Kulju had her own thoughts on the best reason for bringing Ailey II to Forbes.

“The goal of art is to inspire or invoke some sort of emotion and [Ailey II] certainly does that,” Kulju said.

Actions spoke louder than words on Tuesday night, for the audience gave a standing ovation so long that dancers did the final piece of “Revelations,” (“Rock-a My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham,”) again. Both times this soulful piece was complemented with high energy from the dancers and clapping along by the audience.

This was followed by more applause that could hardly be silenced.

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COURTESY OF BOB ADAMEK

Well-known dance company Ailey II performed at Forbes on Monday and Tuesday.

restaurant review

Around Chophouse in (less than) 80 days

After trying the entire menu in less than a month, a student reviews the Student Success Center eatery

Emma Korynta | contributing writer



PHOTOS BY MATT SCHMACHTENBERG / THE BREEZE

TOP The Pimento Grilled Cheese is Korynta’s favorite option, and one of the few punchable options. **MIDDLE** The Shenandoah Salad barely needs dressing, with a base of arugula, crisp apple slices and mountains of goat cheese mixing things up. **BOTTOM** The Farmers Market burger comes with tomato jam – a unique twist on the usual ketchup or salsa.

With a complete wait staff, white tables set to the nines and fresh meals with aromas that could fill you up alone, it’s hard to believe you’re in a college dining hall. However, JMU dining isn’t ranked No. 6 in the country for nothing.

I have a bit of a reputation for liking food. I don’t mind. If anything, I’m proud of it. This semester I decided to

Student Success Center
Chophouse
★★★★☆
Accepts punches and dining dollars

put it to good use.

It occurred to me about a month ago that I was eating almost every lunch at Chophouse, one of the dining options in Bistro 1908 in the Student Success Center. I decided to try everything on the menu. Chophouse does have some punchable options, but those non-punchable options usually cost just two to three dining dollars on top of a punch.

Since then, I’ve had every salad, sandwich, side dish and burger on the menu, excluding only the entrees and the soup/salad/special of the day. Just for fun, I decided to rank my favorites per section.

As much as I hate to admit it, my No. 1 meal has to be the Grilled Pimento Cheese. You really can’t beat it. As one of the few punchable options, I was hoping that there would be some secret menu item with a taste that matched the higher prices. Alas, there seems to be none topping the delicious melted cheese and tomato bisque dipping sauce. If you’re ever lost on what to eat, this is my can’t-go-wrong meal.

If you’re feeling adventurous in the sandwich department, The Meatball will change your world. Just the smell of this sub transports you to a little café in Italy. This sandwich puts a new spin on the classic meatball sub by adding a bed of chopped up spaghetti coated with a fluffy marinara that makes every bite all the better. This

massive meal even comes with fries and doesn’t skimp, so save it for when you’re absolutely starving.

As far as burgers go, I recommend The Farmers Market. This burger’s strong point is the unique take on tomato jam, so if you’re not a fan of the fruit (or vegetable, if that’s how you see it), stay away. Now, you might be thinking that when I say jam I must mean salsa or diced tomatoes, but they really did put jam on a burger — and it’s impeccable. This burger will get you right in the mood for those spring afternoons on the Quad, so get it to go and enjoy the nicer weather! Pro-tip from a Chophouse enthusiast: almost everything tastes better on a turkey burger, so try out a turkey patty.

I’m not a huge salad fan, but there’s just something to love about the Shenandoah Salad. This beaut uses a base of arugula instead of the standard spinach or mixed greens, and it makes a world of a difference. The salad is so refreshing with the crisp apple slices, mountains of goat cheese and delicious walnuts that you barely even need the light dressing.

Lastly, next time you have an extra punch or a few dining dollars to spare, treat yourself to an extra side of zucchini fries. While you can’t go wrong with the Chophouse fries or onion rings, there is something so satisfying about biting into a perfectly-fried zucchini fry dipped into the

just-spicy-enough chipotle ranch dressing. Also, it’s technically a vegetable, so it’s sort of healthy!

While I hate to hate any food, I wasn’t a huge fan of the Spinach Salad. There wasn’t much to it besides the spinach. It was honestly a little bland, and if I’m going to be eating salad, I want excitement. It’s the same reason that I’m not a huge fan of the standard Chophouse Salad or Chopped Steak Burger. When a menu is this vast and has so many options, I can’t see any reason to stick with a plain (and frankly a little boring) burger.

Honestly, it’s a bit hard to go wrong when you eat at Chophouse, so next time you’re trying to make lunch plans, do yourself a favor by stepping out of your comfort zone and exploring the menu. Instead of a plain burger, try The Southern and experience fried green tomatoes. Instead of a plain salad, try The Burg and experience every college students’ dream: fries on a salad.

Looking back on this experience, you wouldn’t have to twist my arm to get me to try the whole menu again. While I do have favorites that I crave regardless of the day, I’ve learned that Chophouse is definitely more than meets the eye.

Emma Korynta is a freshman communication studies and media arts and design double major. Contact Emma at korynten@dukes.jmu.edu.

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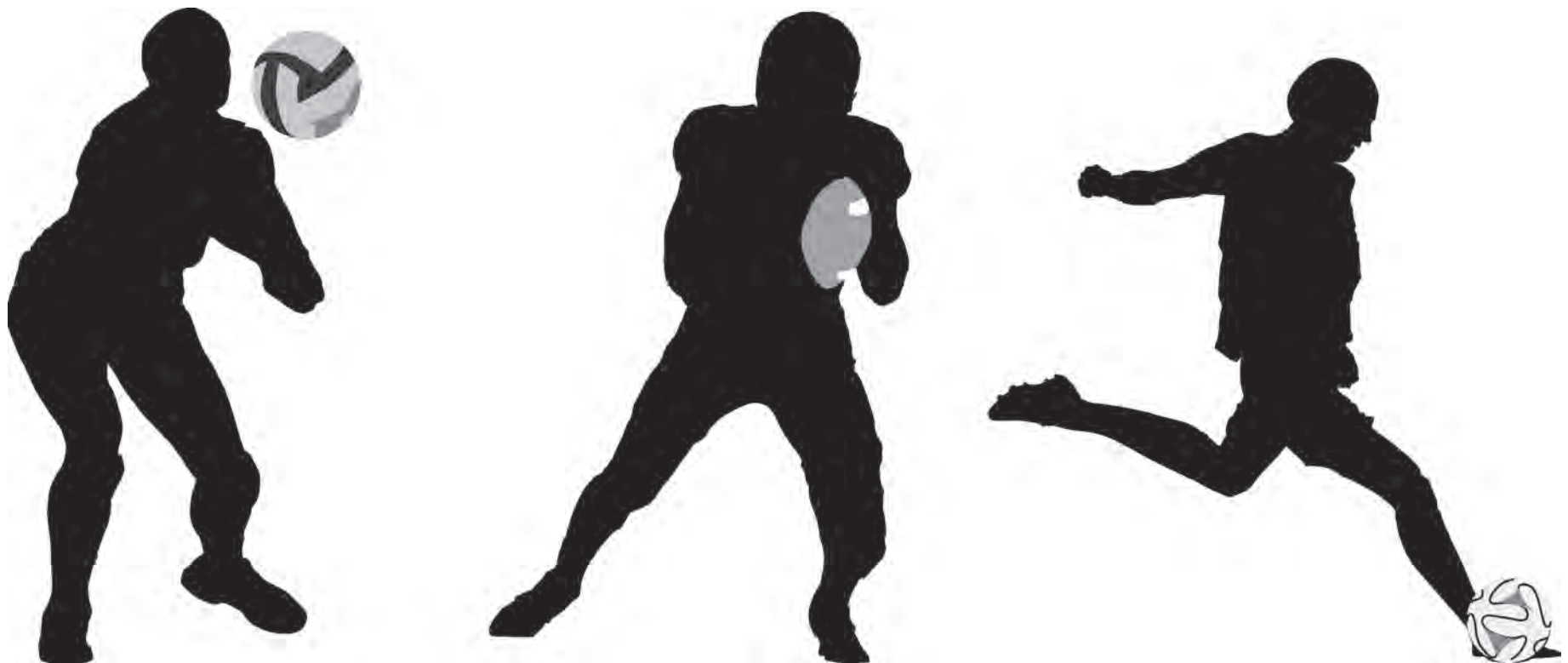
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Student-athletes B.A.L.L. out

Members of JMU sports partake in the Dukes 'Building a Lifelong Leader' program



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

By **ANDRE HABOUSH**
The Breeze

Since 1999, the Dukes Building a Lifelong Leader (B.A.L.L.) program has been a staple of coaching JMU student-athletes to also be leaders off the court.

In 2013, the Madison Collaborative implemented the "Eight Key Questions," which are supposed to encourage ethical reasoning in action. Back in the fall semester, Dukes B.A.L.L. incorporated these questions into eight different sessions for the athletes.

Over eight Monday nights this semester, eight different speakers were supposed to speak about one of the questions, although snow affected the spring schedule. Because of the inclement weather, only one speaker, Katelyn Thomas from Campus Assault Response (CARE), came. The rest of the meetings were facilitated by Tiffany Brutus, the director of student athlete affairs and academic advisor, who heads the program.

The B.A.L.L. program was created 16 years ago by associate athletic director

for student athlete services, Casey Carter, and former academic advisor Cayce Crenshaw, who is now at Elon University.

According to Brutus, the goal of the program is to let student athletes find their values and strengths while leading. At Dukes B.A.L.L., they discussed how to develop their skills and how to use them on a regular basis.

"So it's just making them more conscious about these values or strengths that you have or these are values or strengths that you might want to improve upon, and how do you do that in a realistic way," Brutus said. "We really want to start to get them to think about how they're implementing, and how they're acting as a leader more so than who they are thinking of themselves or how they've been identified as a leader."

With both the Madison Collaborative and B.A.L.L. encouraging critical and ethical reasoning with action, the positive impression left on the participants brings delight to Brutus and the program.

"I would say the success comes from where they can see the bigger picture, and

see how everybody plays a part, but also see how they play a part in what everybody else's roles and responsibilities are in regards to their experience at JMU," Brutus said. "I will also say that what I find successful is when the student-athletes are willing and able to initiate the conversation or contribute effectively or consistently throughout the program."

As both fall and spring B.A.L.L. programs have been successful over the last two semesters, there are no plans to end or alter B.A.L.L. in the foreseeable future. JMU athletics' strategic plan for the remainder of the decade indicates strong emphasis on being an NCAA model for student-athletes.

Nominated by their coaches and academic advisors, student-athletes selected for B.A.L.L. presented strong leadership skills coupled with potential. Those student athletes maintained strong academic performance and a workable schedule.

Two of the seven athletes, sophomores Hanna Radhi and Kate Whitmire, came from the volleyball team. Others included junior Rashard Davis, junior Raven Greene

and redshirt sophomore Kyre Hawkins from football, and freshmen Jordan Fox and Keaton Hinze from men's soccer.

Radhi and Whitmire learned core values and both said they would retake B.A.L.L. if offered. Their favorite memory came from the last meeting on March 23, when elementary skills offered a deep meaning.

"We were asked to draw pictures of how we want the world to see us, and we were asked to draw a picture on the back about how we want the world to see our team," Radhi said. "I think it really helped us to see the big picture."

The two also had a favorite speaker, albeit Brutus was not intended to be it.

"[Brutus] definitely did a great job with the program, but what was my favorite was probably when she played the Ted Talks," Whitmire said.

The next B.A.L.L. sessions are expected to take place in the fall with offseason student-athletes and the same goals in mind.

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CLUB SPORTS

Dukes wrestle onto the podium

Three out of four JMU club wrestlers place at the National Collegiate Wrestling Championships

By **MEGHAN MALLOY**
The Breeze

While many athletes think of their competitions as a way to improve themselves or their team, the wrestlers on the JMU club team have a much bigger purpose in mind.

From March 11 to March 13, four members of the club wrestling team traveled to Allen, Texas, to compete in the National Collegiate Wrestling Championships. Three of the wrestlers placed among the top eight in their respective weight classes.

Freshman economics major Joe Staley placed seventh in the 149-pound weight class, while senior engineering major and club secretary Stefan Haas landed a second-place finish in the 197-pound weight class. Head coach and president of the program, junior finance major Trey Gregory, finished out the tournament in third place for the 157-pound weight class. Sophomore economics and health services administration double major Jimmy Conte also traveled with the team, but didn't place.

For these athletes, their performances carry more weight than just standing atop a podium or receiving a medal. Throughout the season, the goal of the JMU wrestlers is to draw in more members.

"I hope it boosts participation numbers," Haas said. "If they can see that we compete at a national tournament and actually do well, I'm hoping guys are more [eager] to come out."

Haas wrestled in the 184-pound weight class the previous year, but moved up because he felt he had more energy and was more comfortable despite his competition being stronger in the 197-weight class.

In order to prepare for the NCWC, the intensity of workouts and amount of focus geared toward each match increases. While diet doesn't affect the wrestlers significantly, they're advised to watch what they eat in the days leading up to the tournament.

"I watch my weight more so towards the end of the week before we go, but it's not that hard, I don't have to cut that much," Staley said.

Even as a freshman, Staley knows the importance of success within the program and hopes his performance inspires others to participate as well. "I would hope to get more people on the team,"

Staley said. "When they see [us] going to Texas, hopefully they'll see they can do those things in college too."

As if preparing for a tournament as challenging and prestigious as nationals isn't already difficult enough, it becomes even more so when practices consist of only a few wrestlers.

"We didn't really have a great turnout so at practices a lot of times it was just three guys trying to get a good workout in," Haas said.

Although the season begins with strong numbers in the mid-20s, they inevitably dwindle as people become wrapped up in other commitments.

"Occasionally we'll have 10 people show up to practice, but towards the end of the season we only take five or six to the conference tournament," Gregory said.

The team placed fourth in the Mid-Atlantic Conference, which is made up of 21 teams.

Yet another force working against the team is a rule created by the National Collegiate Wrestling Association.

The team placed 14th out of 58 total teams competing in the Division II classification, but would've placed among the top 10 teams nationally if it had the NCWA emblem displayed on its singlets.

"We lost a team point for every match we wrestled and we wrestled 21 matches," Gregory said. "If you put those 21 points back into it, we would have finished seventh."

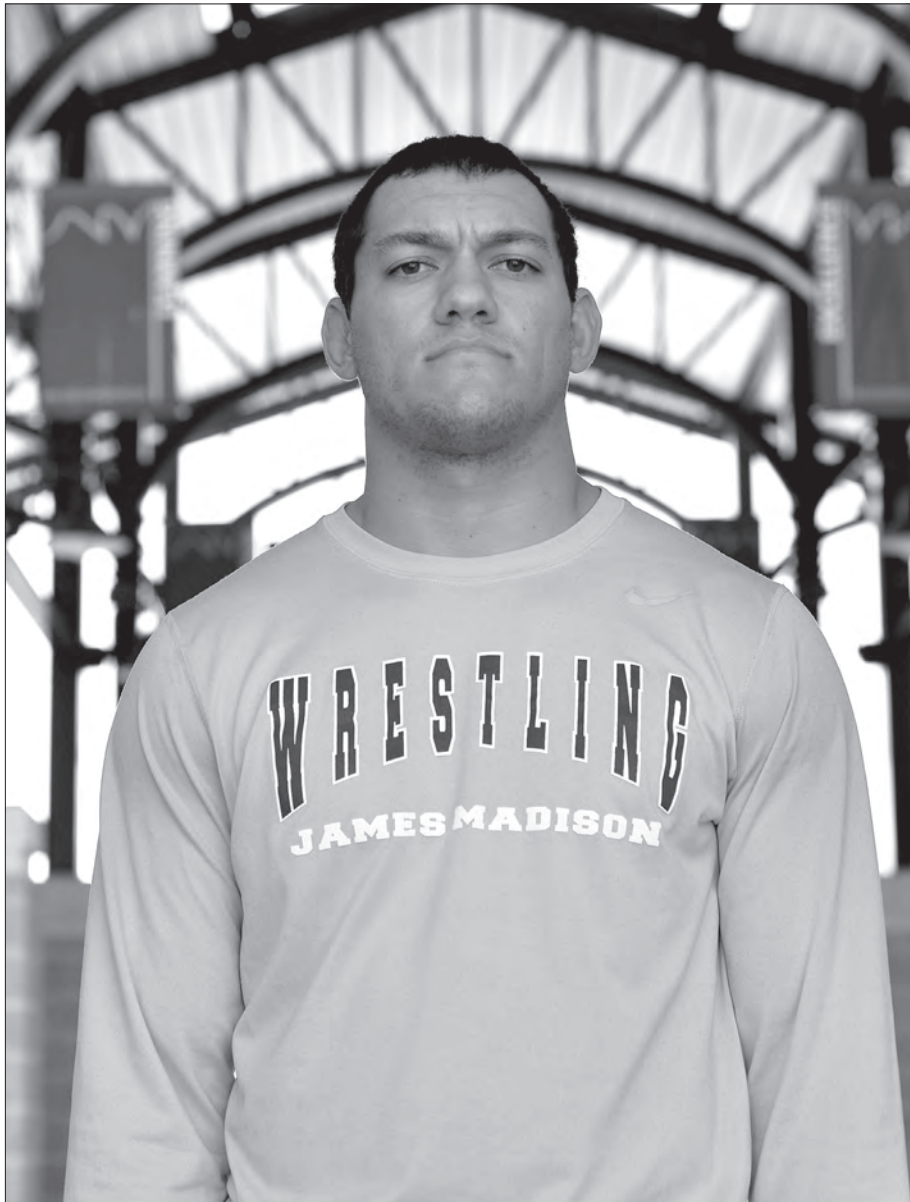
As the coach and president, Gregory recognizes and embraces the overarching challenge of attracting more students to the team.

"I'd like for the club to have more people come out more consistently because practices are more fun and more effective when you have 15 to 20 people there instead of wrestling the same five people," Gregory said.

With performances like it had at nationals, club wrestling hopes to continue making its presence known at JMU.

"A lot of people don't even know we have a [wrestling] club here, so the biggest thing is just getting the word out there," Gregory said. "We have a club and we're doing well."

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MARK OWEN / THE BREEZE

Senior Stefan Haas placed second for the Dukes at the National Collegiate Wrestling Championship.

Dukes spring in to 2015

Breaking down JMU football as the program kicks off its spring schedule



JAMES CHUNG / THE BREEZE

Head coach Everett Withers enters his second season at JMU.

By **RICHIE BOZEK**
The Breeze

The ‘Rise of the Dukes’ is underway. A phrase coined by JMU football’s spring posters, the Dukes started a new chapter of their ascent on Monday afternoon when they held their first practice of the spring schedule at Bridgeforth Stadium. Monday brought the team’s winter training to a close, which started back in January. Here is a look at the past, present and future as the program moves forward.

The past

At this point in time a year ago, JMU was in the midst of kicking off a “New Era” as head coach Everett Withers entered his first season at the controls of the program. This new era resulted in a 9-4 season that ended with a 26-21 loss in the first round of the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs against Virginia foe Liberty University.

The Dukes’ 2014 campaign had many notable achievements, including a seven-game win streak in the latter half of the season and a handful of different records set on the offensive side of the ball. JMU finished first in the Colonial Athletic Association last season in total offense, averaging 484.6 yards per game. The Dukes’ offense was also the third-highest scoring in the CAA, tallying 35.7 points per game. However, after practice on Monday, Withers made clear that it’s a brand new year. “We started over when we came in here back in January,” Withers said. “I forget about last year. Last year’s team’s been buried and done. It’s got a tombstone on it.”

The present

Between now and the spring game, JMU will hold 15 spring practices. The Dukes’ spring game is scheduled for 1 p.m. on April 25 at Bridgeforth. The program will also host a couple of special events in that time period, including Student Appreciation Day and a 7-on-7 all-female “Swag” Flag Football Tournament. Both events are scheduled to take place on April 18. After last season, the Dukes graduated 19 seniors and redshirt seniors, four of whom received All-CAA honors. But the team also has a core of last year’s squad back. Returning to orchestrate the Dukes’ offense for his final season is redshirt senior quarterback Vad Lee. Lee will be entering his second year with the Dukes after transferring to JMU from Georgia Tech University last year. Lee led the CAA in passing and became the first quarterback in JMU history to throw for over 3,000 yards. Lee has a number of returning targets from last year, such as junior wide receiver Brandon Ravanel and redshirt senior tight end Deane Cheatham. Junior Khalid Abdullah and sophomore John Miller will also be returning to the backfield. The running back duo contributed greatly to the Dukes’ run game, which ranked second in the CAA. Notable returners on the defensive side of the ball include redshirt junior linebacker Gage Steele and redshirt junior cornerback Taylor Reynolds. Players were not made available for interviews. Currently, sophomore cornerback Jimmy Moreland, junior linebacker Rakeem Stallings, and redshirt freshman K.J. Ford remain out after being suspended back in February for violating the program’s Core Values. After practice on Monday, Withers gave no indication of a return.

The future

With the amount of changes made within the coaching staff, it’s with no doubt that a new year could be considered a new era of its own. Former offensive coordinators Drew Mehringer and Brad Davis left JMU this offseason. Mehringer took an assistant coaching position at the University of Houston while Davis took an offensive coaching position at East Carolina University. Brett Elliot, formerly of Mississippi State University, is now the Dukes’ quarterbacks coach and co-offensive coordinator with Zak Kuhr. Kuhr also remains as the running backs coach. Defensive coordinator Brandon Staley departed JMU to return to his prior defensive coordinator position at John Carroll University. Steve Sisa filled the shoes of the defensive coordinator position, switching from his role as safeties coach. Pete Davila, who spent his past three seasons as a special teams and defensive backs coach at Otterbein University, comes to Harrisonburg as the Dukes’ new safeties coach. Assistant coach John Bowers also transitioned from tight ends coach to outside linebackers coach. Sean Fisher, who helped coach Ohio State University to the 2015 Sugar Bowl, arrives to JMU as the new tight ends coach. Jamal Powell also enters his first year on the Dukes coaching staff as offensive line coach. Powell was previously the run game coordinator and offensive line coach at West Virginia State University. “They’ve done great since the day they walked in here,” Withers said of the new staff. “They fit in just like the guys we brought in here last year.” Assistant coaches were also not made available for comment. The Dukes also had 21 new players commit to the program on National Signing Day back in February — 12 offensive and nine defensive players. JMU opens up the season on Sept. 5, hosting Morehead State University. Featured on its 2015 schedule is a matchup against Football Bowl Subdivision opponent Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. “We got a long way to go, we’re day to day,” Withers said. “When the spring’s over on the 25th we’ll look at it and see where we are.” One thing’s for sure, the Dukes will be aiming for more than last year as described by a hashtag used by Withers on Twitter — #9and4NotGoodEnough.

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Struggling Dukes look to bounce back this weekend

JMU enters the weekend 0-6 in the CAA as they gear up to host Delaware

By **STEPHEN PROFFITT**
The Breeze

In two straight games, JMU baseball has left the tying run on base when the final out was recorded. Having lost 11 of their last 12 games, the Dukes sit in limbo — winless in the Colonial Athletic Association (0-6) and five games under .500, at 10-16 overall after a 3-0 loss at the University of Maryland on Wednesday afternoon. The stretch of hard times began back on March 15, when JMU dropped the last two games of the PK5 Classic to Monmouth University and Virginia Commonwealth University. Conference sweeps by Elon University and the College of Charleston have pinched JMU. The Dukes have been outscored 100-55 in their last 11 games. They’ve lost two extra-inning games. They’ve lost four games by two runs or less. They’re the only winless team in the conference as Towson (4-20, 1-5 CAA) picked up a conference win on Sunday against

the University of North Carolina Wilmington. The lone JMU win in the last two weeks came last Tuesday night at home against the University of Maryland, 8-6. The Dukes pulled out to an impressive 8-0 lead before Maryland surged back with six runs before junior left hander Michael Evans closed the door on the Terps. A team batting average of .247 and 6.00 team ERA are in major need of repair. The team, though, remains young. The season also remains young as it’s just under halfway through. Without a change in momentum, the Dukes could quickly find themselves out of any contention in the CAA. JMU welcomes the University of Delaware this weekend for a three-game conference series at Eagle Field. As of Wednesday night, the Blue Hens are 10-10, 2-4 CAA. The Dukes went 1-2 against Delaware last season.

CONTACT Stephen Proffitt at proffittjs@gmail.com.



SOFTBALL | Both JMU and Hofstra remain perfect through six CAA games

from front

Jailyn Ford expects teams to play well every time they face the Dukes because they relish the opportunity to knock off a quality opponent, but she believes as JMU does what its done all year it’ll be fine. “We’re always gonna see everybody’s best game,” Ford said. “As long as we play up to our ability and play our game then there’s no reason we can’t achieve the goals we’ve already set for this team.” With Hofstra being one of the better teams in the CAA and having great support from its fans, the Dukes know they are in for a challenge on the road.

“Last time I went there they were pretty loud in the stands,” Field said. “They really get into it. You just kinda have to ignore everyone.” With a roster led by senior pitcher Morgan Lashley, who has a 10-1 record on the season, and junior outfielder Chloe Fitzgerald, who leads the Pride with 31 hits on the season, Hofstra provides one of the stiffest tests in the conference for the Dukes. But JMU knows what it takes to compete against top competition. The Dukes own wins over some of the best teams in the nation including victories against the University of Central Florida, currently ranked No. 16 in the USA Today/NFCA poll, and the University of Minnesota, currently ranked No. 14 in the same poll.

“If you look at our schedule it’s probably one of the hardest in the country,” junior pitcher Jailyn Ford said. This demanding schedule allows the Dukes to see how they stack up against the best and make improvements based on those results. “Playing harder teams ... they show our weaknesses that we can work on,” Ford said. “We’ve worked on our weakness[es], made them new strengths and are able to now use them against a team like Hofstra.” Dean knows a demanding schedule may add up to a few extra losses at the end of the year, but the team’s improvement greatly outweighs any possible blemishes on its resume. “That’s what our preseason schedule is for, to

help prepare us for conference,” Dean said. “We just want to see better pitching.” In regards to Hofstra, its successes all stem from having such a talented roster. “Well, they have good players and they have good coaching,” Dean said. “Usually that makes a good team.” Hofstra and JMU begin their series with a doubleheader Friday in Hempstead, New York, with the game beginning at 2 p.m. and the second beginning 20 minutes after they conclude play. The teams finish the series Saturday with the first pitch to be thrown at noon. **CONTACT** Bennett Conlin at conlinbf@dukes.jmu.edu.

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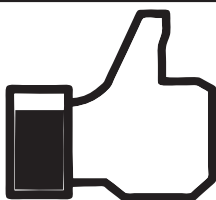
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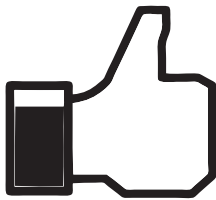
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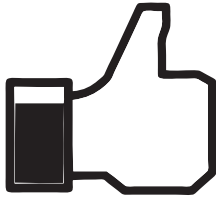
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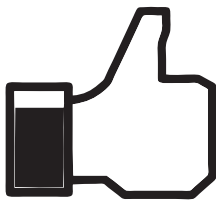
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